

Re: Mearsk's request to transfer operating agreements from USSM.

I am a retired merchant mariner, having held unlimited Master's license for 16 years. Having sailed on U.S. ships carrying military cargo during both the Vietnam War and the Gulf War of 1991, I know the importance of U.S. manned vessels to support the military efforts of the U.S.A., where flag of convenience ships failed to go. In order to maintain an effective U.S. manned fleet, I urge you strongly to give favorable consideration to Maersk's request to transfer operating agreements from USSM to Maersk Line Limited.